

and others on human-rights violations and the independence of Khalistan. Special orders of the U.S. Congress on human-rights violations and the independence of Khalistan have been conducted. The Indian government is trying to alter the Sikh history in Punjab since 1984. They will not succeed because it is preserved in the library of the U.S. Congress. It will lie there safely for a long time. Students of history will find the true story of what happened to the Sikh Nation since 1984.

Khalsa Ji, the time has come for Sikhs to unite and free Khalistan. Remember the words of Guru Gobind Singh, "I grant sovereignty to the humble Sikhs." Freedom is the birthright of all people and nations. It is also granted by our Gurus. The Indian government is so afraid that it is planting agents in Gurdwara committees and organizations that fight for Khalistan. It is creating Deras and planting agents in the Golden Temple to try to stoke violence. It is arresting Sikh activists for protesting a statue of the repressive, murderous Beant Singh, who was responsible for the murder of over 50,000 Sikhs and the secret cremation of their bodies by declaring them "unidentified", as well as the murders of Sardar Jaswant Singh Khaira, who exposed that brutal policy, and Jathedar Gurdev Singh Kaunke, or for making pro-Khalistani speeches and raising the flag of Khalistan. Beware of Sikh leaders who do the bidding of the Indian government.

Just the other day in the Southall Gurdwara in the United Kingdom, Sikh youth took control of the stage when the present management, which is under the control of the Indian Embassy, refused to do Ardas for Shaheed Bhai Kanwaljit Singh, who was killed by followers of the cult leader Ram Rahim when he went to confront them. We must replace these management committees with pro-Sikh, pro-Khalistani management.

Khalsa Ji, the time has come. Take responsibility and rise to the occasion. Work for the freedom of Khalistan so that the Sikh religion can flourish and the Sikh Nation can live with honor and dignity. Only then can the future of the Khalsa Panth be bright. Remember the words of the former Jathedar of the Akal Takht Sahib, Professor Darshan Singh, that "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh." Let us show true Sikh spirit. We must rise up and free Khalistan now.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILLIAMSON-SODUS AIRPORT

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Williamson-Sodus Airport. The airport's history dates back to May 9, 1957, when members of the Williamson Flying Club, Inc. purchased a half-mile parcel of land in the Town of Sodus.

The Williamson-Sodus Airport was an 1,800-foot runway that was seeded in July 1957. Over the years the runway was upgraded and is now a 3,800 ft. hard-surface asphalt runway with modern lighting and taxiways and is always under improvement. Operated by the Williamson Flying Club, Inc., the Williamson-Sodus Airport has tremendously grown to serve the various needs of the community.

One of the airport's functions is to serve as a "reliever" airport for the Greater Rochester area. The airport is also utilized by local industries as well as the United States Coast Guard.

On behalf of the citizens of the 25th Congressional District of New York, I congratulate the Williamson-Sodus Airport for its 50 years of operation and achievements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 385, to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1425, the Staff Sergeant Marvin "Rex" Young Post Office Building, I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONGRATULATING DARIA VAN TYNE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Daria Van Tyne of Vassar College. Ms. Van Tyne is a biology student and is a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Award. This grant is given to promising individuals to aid them in their academic and cultural pursuits abroad.

The Fulbright Program was established by Congress in 1946 and is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. This program was designed to help build mutual understanding between Americans and the global community. Individuals who are awarded this distinction have demonstrated outstanding academic or professional achievement and have proven themselves as leaders in their field.

Madam Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Ms. Van Tyne and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

23RD ANNIVERSARY OF GOLDEN TEMPLE ATTACK

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, the beginning of June marks the 23rd anniversary of India's military attack on the Golden Temple in Amritsar, which is the seat of the Sikh religion. It occurred from June 3 through June 6, 1984. Many other Sikh Gurdwaras were attacked at the same time in what was known as Operation Blue Star, which killed over 20,000 Sikhs. That was the beginning of a genocide in which over 250,000 Sikhs were killed.

During the attack, young Sikh boys, ranging in age from 8 to 13 years old, were taken outside and shot to death. Other soldiers bravely shot bullets into the Sikh holy scriptures. As

Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was killed in the attack, predicted, it laid the foundation for the liberation of the Sikh homeland, Khalistan.

This brutal attack was a desecration of the Sikh religion and culture and a bitter reminder that there is no place for Sikhs or other minorities in Hindu India. They are simply used for the greater glory of the Brahmins.

The Council of Khalistan, which will be leading a commemorative demonstration across from the White House on June 2, has published an excellent open letter on the massacre.

If we want to put an end to ongoing repression, Madam Speaker, we should support independence for all the nations of South Asia. We should go on record in support of a free and fair plebiscite, monitored, on the question of independence for Khalistan, Kashmir, Nagaland, and all the nations of the subcontinent. We should stop trading with India and providing it aid until it respects the basic right to self-determination and all human rights for all its people, whether Brahmin or Dalit, whether Hindu, Sikh, Christian, Muslim, or whatever. We send India development aid, Madam Speaker, and it puts just 2 percent of its development budget to education and just 2 percent to health, but 25 percent to nuclear development! Remember that India began the nuclear escalation in South Asia.

23RD ANNIVERSARY OF GOLDEN TEMPLE ATTACK

DEAR KHALSA PANTH: Next month marks the 23rd anniversary of the Indian government's brutal attack and desecration of Darbar Sahib, the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar. Sikhs must never forget or forgive this atrocity. Remember that the Indian troops shot bullet holes into an original copy of the Guru Granth Sahib, written in the time of the Gurus. They took over 100 young Sikh boys, ages 8 to 13, out into the courtyard of the complex and asked them if they supported Khalistan. When they answered "Bole So Nihar", they were shot to death. Thirty seven (37) other Gurdwaras were simultaneously attacked. In all, more than 20,000 Sikhs were killed in that operation. This kind of brutality makes it clear that there is no place for Sikhs in India.

Since that horrible four-day operation, which took place from June 3 through 6, 1984, over a quarter of a million Sikhs have been murdered at the hands of the Indian government, according to figures compiled by the Punjab State magistracy and human-rights groups. More than 52,000 are being held as political prisoners, according to a report by the Movement Against State Repression. They are held without charge or trial, many since 1984. We demand the immediate release of all political prisoners and a full accounting for those who may have died in custody.

Instead, our highest institutions—the Golden Temple, the Punjab government, the Akali Dal, and others—remain under Indian control. Our homeland, Khalistan, remains under Indian occupation 20 years after declaring its independence from India. Half a million Indian troops continue to enforce the peace of the bayonet in Punjab, Khalistan.

Remember the words of Narinder Singh, a spokesman for the Golden Temple, to America's National Public Radio: "The Indian government, all the time they boast that they are democratic, that they are secular, that they have nothing to do with a democracy, nothing to do with a secularism. They just kill Sikhs just to please the majority."

Sant Bhindranwale told us that the attack would "lay the foundation of Khalistan." Indeed, it did. On October 7, 1987, Khalistan declared its independence. We must use this